

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 15-23 are currently pending in the application. Claims 15-16, 18-21 and 23 are amended by the present amendment to correct a minor informality noted in the outstanding Office Action. Support for the amended claims can be found in the original specification, claims and drawings.¹ Thus, no new matter is presented.

This amendment is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 which after final rejection permits entering amendments, canceling claims, complying with any requirement of form expressly set forth in a previous Office Action, or presenting rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal. Claims 15-16, 18-21 and 23 are amended to comply with requirements of form set forth in previous Office Actions, and to clarify pending claim language. It is therefore respectfully requested that the present amendment be entered under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

In the outstanding Final Office Action, Claims 15 and 19-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; Claims 15-17 and 19-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Lee (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0234799 A1); and Claims 18 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Lee in view of Kuga (U.S. Patent No. 5,686,940).

The outstanding Office Action rejected Claims 15 and 19-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. More particularly, the Office Action cites the phrase “said information” in the final lines of these claims and asserts that “it is unknown if applicant intended for *said information* to encompass *position information* and if not, if *said information* otherwise referred to *displaying information*.”

¹ E.g., specification, at least at Figs. 1, 2A and 2B and their corresponding description in the specification.

In response, each of independent Claims 15 and 19-20 are amended to recite, in part, “displaying said display information on said display based on said display mode,” or other similar limitations. Thus, the previously recited feature of “displaying said information” is clarified to recite that the information displayed is the previously recited “display information.” Dependent Claims 16, 18, 21 and 23 are also amended to be consistent with amended independent Claims 16 and 20.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 15 and 19-20 (and the claims that depend therefrom) under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 15-17 and 19-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Lee. In response to this rejection, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 15-17 and 19-22 recite novel features clearly not taught or rendered obvious by the applied references.

Specifically, independent Claim 15 recites a method for operating a display device, comprising:

- generating user position information of a user in relation to a display of said display device, wherein said user position information is descriptive of a distance of the user with respect to said display;
- changing a display mode for displaying display information on said display depending on said user position information, wherein in said display mode ***an amount*** of said displayed display information depends on said user position information; and
- displaying said display information on said display based on said display mode.

Independent Claims 19 and 20, while directed to alternative embodiments, recite substantially similar features. Accordingly, the remarks and arguments presented below are applicable to each of independent Claims 15, 19 and 20.

As described in an exemplary embodiment at Fig. 1 and p. 8, line 25-p. 9, line 2 of the specification, the position of a user (e.g., distance from the display) is determined relative to a display device. Then, a display mode is changed based on the user position information and, as depicted in Figs. 2A-2B, the ***amount of information*** displayed depends on the user position information (e.g., less information is displayed in larger font if the user is located at a distance further away from the display device, whereas more information in a smaller font is displayed if the user is detected to be close to the display device). The practical applications of such a configuration are described at pp. 7-8 of the specification.

Turning to the applied primary reference, Lee describes a method for adjusting a size of an image in a computer system when the distance between the display apparatus 10 and the user is changed. As noted at paragraph [0030] and Figs. 5-6 of Lee, the size of the same piece of information may be changed based on a detected user's location.

Lee, however, fails to teach or suggest "changing a display mode for displaying display information on said display depending on said user position information, wherein in said display mode ***an amount*** of said displayed display information depends on said user position information," as recited in independent Claim 15.

In rejecting this claimed feature, the outstanding Office Action relies on paragraph [0029] of Lee. This cited portion of Lee describes a computer system including a display apparatus 10 provided with a distance sensor 11 sensing a distance between a user and the display apparatus 10, and a computer main body 1 provided with a video card 7 outputting a video signal to the display apparatus 10. The computer main body 1 includes an image displaying ratio data storage part 3 storing image displaying ratio data, an image size adjusting part 5 that reads out the image displaying ratio data from the image displaying ratio data storage part 3 according to the distance between a user and the display apparatus 10 sensed by the distance sensor 11 and adjusts a size of an image on the basis of the read image

displaying ratio data, and an image displaying ratio setting part 6 for setting up an image displaying ratio by the user.

Thus, as depicted in Figs. 5-6, Lee describes that a size of an image is adjusted based on the location of a user, not an amount of data being displayed. Therefore, Lee fails to teach or suggest “changing a display mode for displaying display information on said display depending on said user position information, wherein in said display mode ***an amount*** of said displayed display information depends on said user position information,” as recited in independent Claim 15.

Further, dependent Claim 16 recites, in part,

...if said user is in a first position said information includes a first amount of text, and if said user is in a second position said information includes a second amount of text, wherein said first position represents a closer position to said display than said second position and ***said first amount of text is larger than said second amount of text,***”

and Claim 17, which depends from Claims 16 and 15 recites

...wherein said first and second amount of text is determined based on ***re-phrasing said first and second amount of text.***”

Dependent Claims 21 and 22, which depend from independent Claim 20, are similarly rejected. Accordingly, the remarks and arguments presented below are applicable to each of dependent Claims 16-17 and 21-22.

In rejecting these claimed features, the outstanding Office Action relies on paragraph [0033] and Figs. 5-6 of Lee. These cited portions of Lee, however, as discussed above, merely describe a process of changing a size of an image and fail to teach or suggest modifying an ***amount of text***, much less ***rephrasing... an amount of text***, as recited in dependent Claims 16 and 17.

More specifically, paragraph [0033] of Lee describes that the video card 7 adjusts the size of the image and outputs it to the display apparatus 10, so that the display apparatus 10

displays an image with the size automatically adjusted according to the distance between the display apparatus 10 and a user. Lee further describes that “[a]ccording to the first embodiment of the present invention, the video card 7 can be controlled by a video card control program such as a text size adjusting function of a control board provided in the operating system.”

Thus, as noted above, Lee merely describes that a size of the image, or the size of the text, presented to the user is modified based on a detected user distance, but fails to teach or suggest adjusting the *amount of text* displayed to the user based on their position, much less *re-phrasing the text*. More particularly, Lee fails to teach or suggest that “...if said user is in a first position said information includes a first amount of text, and if said user is in a second position said information includes a second amount of text, wherein said first position represents a closer position to said display than said second position and *said first amount of text is larger than said second amount of text*,” and “...said first and second amount of text is determined based on *re-phrasing said first and second amount of text*,” as recited in dependent Claims 16 and 17.

The outstanding Office Action further rejected Claims 18 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Lee in view of Kuga. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, as dependent Claims 18 and 23 recite novel features clearly not taught or rendered obvious by the applied references.

Dependent Claims 18 and 23 recite, in part,

...if said user is in a first position said information includes a first amount of semantic content, and if said user is a second position said information includes a second amount of semantic content, wherein said first position represents a closer position to said display than said second position and *said first amount of semantic content is larger than said second amount of semantic content*.

In rejecting dependent Claims 18 and 23, the outstanding Office Action admits that Lee fails to disclose “that the information includes a first amount of semantic content in a first position, and a second amount of semantic content in a second position.” In an attempt to remedy this deficiency, the outstanding Office Action relies on Kuga and asserts that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the cited references to arrive at Applicants’ claims. Applicants respectfully traverse this assertion as neither Lee, nor Kuga, teach or suggest the claims features for which they are asserted under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Regarding Lee, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 18 and 23 patentably define over the applied references, at least by virtue of their dependency on independent Claims 15 and 20, respectively.

Nonetheless, turning to the secondary reference, Kuga describes a distance sensor for detecting the distance between a display panel and an image viewer on a display apparatus. An image signal supplied to the display panel is controlled based on the distance detected by the distance sensor to allow for a changeover between an enlarged image and a reduced image or between scrolling and stopping of a text or between moving and stationary display of a moving image.²

Kuga, however, fails to teach or suggest that “if said user is in a first position said information includes a first amount of semantic content, and if said user is a second position said information includes a second amount of semantic content, wherein said first position represents a closer position to said display than said second position and ***said first amount of semantic content is larger than said second amount of semantic content,***” as recited in dependent Claims 18 and 23.

² Kuga, Abstract.

In contrast, as described at col. 1, lines 59-63 of Kuga, the changeover between the enlargement and reduction of an image, the scrolling and stopping of a text, and the moving display and the stationary display of a moving image is made according to the detected distance of a user. Therefore, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3 of Kuga the amount of information displayed on a display remains the same, but the image may be enlarged or reduced based on the detected distance of the user. Further, Kuga describes that the scrolling of text or the moving of an image may be stopped when it is detected that the user turns her body toward the display.³

Thus, Kuga describes adjusting the size of displayed information or controlling whether text is scrolled or a moving image is paused based on a detected user position.

However, Kuga does not describe adjusting the *amount of semantic content* displayed on the display device based on a user's position. Specifically, Kuga describes graphically effectuating the way information is presented, but does not describe that the *amount of semantic content* displayed depends on a user's detected position.

Therefore, Kuga fails to teach or suggest that "if said user is in a first position said information includes a first amount of semantic content, and if said user is a second position said information includes a second amount of semantic content, wherein said first position represents a closer position to said display than said second position and *said first amount of semantic content is larger than said second amount of semantic content*," as recited in dependent Claims 18 and 23.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 18 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Lee in view of Kuga, be withdrawn.

³ Id., col. 3, line 66 - col. 5, line 45.

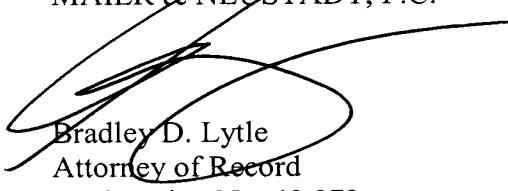
Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by Claims 15-23 is definite and patentably distinguishing over the applied references. The present application is therefore believed to be in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of the application is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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